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EXAMINER	
PAN, JOSEPH T	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2435	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/21/2009	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/806,667	BRICHER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JOSEPH PAN	2435	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 July 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-24,26-28 and 30-36* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-24,26-28 and 30-36* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *23 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's response filed on July 15, 2009 has been fully considered. Claims 1-2, 4-24, 26-28, 30-36 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-20, 22-24, 26-28, 30-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dhir et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,142,557 B2), hereinafter "Dhir", in view of Cheng (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0221034 A1), and further in view of Allmond et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,754,552), hereinafter "Allmond".

Referring to claim 1:

i. Dhir teaches:

A cryptographic device comprising:

a cryptographic module and a communications module (see figure 8, elements 321 'encryption engine', 301 'wlan transceiver' of Dhir);

said cryptographic module comprising

a user network interface (see figure 8, elements 325 'host bus interface', 326 'host device interface', of Dhir),

a cryptographic processor coupled to said user network interface (see figure 8, element 321 'encryption engine' of Dhir), and

said communications module comprising

a network interface (see figure 8, element 301 'wlan [i.e., wireless local area network] transceiver' of Dhir), and

at least one logic device for cooperating with said cryptographic processor to determine a status of said communications module (see figure 8, element 318 'CSMA/TDMA detector', of Dhir).

Dhir further discloses that the cryptographic module and the communication module are separable (see column 7, lines 48-56 'In this embodiment, a **separate** transceiver 301 integrated circuit [i.e., the communication module], namely not embedded in FPGA 300, is coupled to FPGA 300 [i.e., the cryptographic module], as is program memory 312.', of Dhir). However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the cryptographic module and the communication module are removably coupled.

Dhir discloses the logic device. However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

ii. Cheng teaches a add-on card for connecting to both wired and wireless networks, wherein Cheng discloses that "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

On the other hand, Allmond teaches a communication protocol detection system wherein Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status (see column 3, line 47 to column 4, line 3, of Allmond).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Cheng into the method of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Allmond into the method of Dhir to use a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Cheng into the system of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device, because "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Allmond into the system of Dhir use a plurality of different connectors for coupling the cryptographic module to different network devices, because Dhir teaches a method for providing a multi-platform wireless local area network (see column 3, lines 1-2 of Dhir, emphasis added). Allmond teaches a networking device to automatically detecting and interconnecting network devices, each operating according to any one of a plurality of communication protocols (see column 1, lines 16-20 of Allmond, emphasis added). Therefore, Allmond's teaching could enhance Dhir's system.

Referring to claims 2, 14, 24, 28:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose a plurality of interchangeable communications modules each for communicating over a different communications media (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

Referring to claims 4, 26:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the logic device (see abstract, lines 1-8 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 5, 15, 31:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the indicator (see column 8, lines 27-30 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 6, 16, 32:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the complex programmable logic device (CPLD) (see column 1, lines 11-16 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 7, 17, 33:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the wireless and wired communications (see figure 4, elements 'ANT2', 'PHY2'; and the abstract, lines 6-11 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 8, 18, 34:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the Ethernet (see column 2, line 18 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 9, 19:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the processor and the encryption circuit (see figure 8, elements 324 'baseband processor', 321 'encryption engine' of Dhir).

Referring to claims 10, 20:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a cryptographic device (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the buffer (see column 1, line 22, of Dhir).

Referring to claims 12, 22:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a communications system (see claim 1 above). They further disclose the disabling (see column 3, line 35 of Allmond).

Referring to claim 13:

i. Dhir teaches:

A cryptographic device comprising:

a cryptographic module and a communications module (see figure

8, elements 321 'encryption engine', 301 'wlan transceiver' of Dhir);

said cryptographic module comprising

a user local area network interface (LAN) (see figure 8, elements 325 'host bus interface', 326 'host device interface'; and column 6, line 66-column 7, line 3 '...These are wireless local area network specifications.', of Dhir),

a cryptographic processor coupled to said user local area network interface (see figure 8, element 321 'encryption engine' of Dhir), and

said communications module comprising

a network LAN interface (see figure 8, element 301 'wlan transceiver' of Dhir), and

at least one logic device for cooperating with said cryptographic processor to determine at least one of a type of communications module and an operating status thereof, said at least one logic device also permitting said cryptographic processor to configure said network LAN interface (see figure 1, element 120 'programmable logic device'; and column 3, lines 1-17 of Dhir).

Dhir further discloses that the cryptographic module and the communication module are separable (see column 7, lines 48-56 'In this embodiment, a **separate** transceiver 301 integrated circuit [i.e., the communication module], namely not embedded in FPGA 300, is coupled to FPGA 300 [i.e., the cryptographic module], as is program memory 312.', of Dhir). However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the cryptographic module and the communication module are removably coupled.

Dhir discloses the logic device. However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

ii. Cheng teaches a add-on card for connecting to both wired and wireless networks, wherein Cheng discloses that "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

On the other hand, Allmond teaches a communication protocol detection system wherein Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the

processor to determine the communication type and the operating status (see column 3, line 47 to column 4, line 3, of Allmond).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Cheng into the method of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Allmond into the method of Dhir to use a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Cheng into the system of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device, because "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Allmond into the system of Dhir use a plurality of different connectors for coupling the cryptographic module to different network devices, because Dhir teaches a method for providing a multi-platform wireless local area network (see column 3, lines 1-2 of Dhir, emphasis added). Allmond teaches a networking device to automatically detecting and interconnecting network devices, each operating according to any one of a plurality of communication protocols (see column 1, lines 16-20 of Allmond, emphasis added). Therefore, Allmond's teaching could enhance Dhir's system.

Referring to claim 23:

i. Dhir teaches:

A communications method comprising:

coupling a cryptographic module to a network device (see figure 8, element 321 'encryption engine' of Dhir);

providing a communications module , a network LAN interface, and at least one logic device (see figure 8, element 301 'wlan [i.e., wireless local area

network] transceiver', element 300 FPGA [i.e., field programmable gate array], of Dir);

using the network LAN interface to communicate with a network (see column 6, line 66-column 7, line 3 of Dhir); and

causing the at least one logic device to cooperate with the cryptographic processor to determine a status of the communications module (see column 3, lines 1-17 of Dhir).

Dhir further discloses that the cryptographic module and the communication module are separable (see column 7, lines 48-56 'In this embodiment, a **separate** transceiver 301 integrated circuit [i.e., the communication module], namely not embedded in FPGA 300, is coupled to FPGA 300 [i.e., the cryptographic module], as is program memory 312.', of Dhir). However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the cryptographic module and the communication module are removably coupled.

Dhir discloses the logic device. However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

ii. Cheng teaches a add-on card for connecting to both wired and wireless networks, wherein Cheng discloses that "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

On the other hand, Allmond teaches a communication protocol detection system wherein Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status (see column 3, line 47 to column 4, line 3, of Allmond).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Cheng into the method of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Allmond into the method of Dhir to use a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Cheng into the system of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device, because "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Allmond into the system of Dhir use a plurality of different connectors for coupling the cryptographic module to different network devices, because Dhir teaches a method for providing a multi-platform wireless local area network (see column 3, lines 1-2 of Dhir, emphasis added). Allmond teaches a networking device to automatically detecting and interconnecting network devices, each operating according to any one of a plurality of communication protocols (see column 1, lines 16-20 of Allmond, emphasis added). Therefore, Allmond's teaching could enhance Dhir's system.

Referring to claim 27:

i. Dhir teaches:

A communications system comprising:

a plurality of network devices coupled together to define a network, and a cryptographic device coupled to at least one of said network devices (see figure 9 of Dhir);

said cryptographic device comprising a cryptographic module coupled to said at least one network device, and a communications module (see figure 8, element 321 'encryption engine', element 301 'wlan transceier' of Dhir);

said cryptographic module comprising a cryptographic processor coupled to said user network interface (see figure 8, element 321 'encryption engine', element 325 'host bus interface', element 326 'host device interface' of Dhir);

said communications module comprising a network communications interface, and at least one logic device for cooperating with said cryptographic processor to determine a status of said communications module (see

figure 8, element 301 'transceiver', element 300 FPGA [i.e., field programmable gate array] of Dhir).

Dhir further discloses that the cryptographic module and the communication module are separable (see column 7, lines 48-56 'In this embodiment, a **separate** transceiver 301 integrated circuit [i.e., the communication module], namely not embedded in FPGA 300, is coupled to FPGA 300 [i.e., the cryptographic module], as is program memory 312.', of Dhir). However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the cryptographic module and the communication module are removably coupled.

Dhir discloses the logic device. However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

ii. Cheng teaches a add-on card for connecting to both wired and wireless networks, wherein Cheng discloses that "The network connection module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

On the other hand, Allmond teaches a communication protocol detection system wherein Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status (see column 3, line 47 to column 4, line 3, of Allmond).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Cheng into the method of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Allmond into the method of Dhir to use a logic device being polled by the processor to determine the communication type and the operating status.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Cheng into the system of Dhir to make the communication module removable from the cryptographic device, because "The network connection

module can be detachable from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng).

The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Allmond into the system of Dhir use a plurality of different connectors for coupling the cryptographic module to different network devices, because Dhir teaches a method for providing a multi-platform wireless local area network (see column 3, lines 1-2 of Dhir, emphasis added). Allmond teaches a networking device to automatically detecting and interconnecting network devices, each operating according to any one of a plurality of communication protocols (see column 1, lines 16-20 of Allmond, emphasis added). Therefore, Allmond's teaching could enhance Dhir's system.

Referring to claim 30:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a communications system (see claim 27 above). They further disclose configuring the network communications (see column 1, lines 7-9 of Dhir).

Referring to claims 35-36:

Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a communications system (see claim 27 above). They further disclose a plurality of different connectors for coupling the cryptographic module to different network devices (see figure 3; and column 10, line 61 - column 11, line 24 of Allmond).

4. Claims 11, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dhir et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,142,557 B2) in view of Cheng (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0221034 A1), further in view of Allmond et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,754,552), and further in view of Hamlin (U.S. Patent No. 6,799,274 B1).

Referring to claims 11, 21:

i. Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond teach the claimed subject matter: a communications system (see claim 10 above). However, they do not specifically

mention a tamper circuit for disabling the cryptographic processor based upon tampering.

ii. Hamlin teaches a device comprising encryption circuitry wherein Hamlin discloses the tampering circuit for disabling said cryptographic processor based upon tampering (see column 4, lines 5-8, of Hamlin).

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Hamlin into the system of Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond to use the tampering circuit for disabling said cryptographic processor based upon tampering.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Hamlin into the system of Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond to use the tampering circuit for disabling said cryptographic processor based upon tampering, because Dhir teaches "Another aspect of the present invention is the above method further comprising storing a plurality of encryption algorithms configured to program the configuration logic blocks, and selectively programming a second portion of a configuration logic blocks with an encryption algorithm selected from the plurality of encryption algorithms." (see column 3, lines 11-17, of Dhir, emphasis added). Hamlin teaches the tampering circuit for disabling said cryptographic processor based upon tampering (see column 4, lines 5-8, of Hamlin). Therefore, Hamlin's teaching could enhance the system of Dhir, Cheng, and Allmond.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, filed on July 15, 2009, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

(a) Applicant argues:

"Nowhere in the above-referenced passage or anywhere else in Allmond et al. does it disclose a logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine

a type of communications module and an operating status of the communications module. Dhir et al. and Cheng also fail to supply these critical deficiencies. Accordingly, independent Claim i, 13, 23 and 27 are patentable for at least this reason alone." (see page 5, 2nd paragraph)

Examiner maintains:

Allmond discloses "Pursuant to a method according to the present invention, the 10Base-T transceiver is initially enabled for detecting link pulses. When the 10Base-T transceiver detects link pulses and asserts a link signal, the NIC informs the processor by interrupting the processor or by setting a bit in a register polled by the processor. In response, the processor enables the 100Base-T transceiver to determine if it detects link pulses. If so, the 100Base-T transceiver is used to establish communications between the network device and the MAC. If not, the 10Base-T transceiver is used to establish communications. It is noted that jiggling of the connector while making the connection might otherwise result in erroneous detection of the communication protocol used by the network device being connected. Thus, the 100Base-T transceiver is re-enabled a predetermined number of times while the link signal is monitored to determine if the network device is a 100 Mbps device. If the 100Base-T transceiver detects the network device during any of these iterations, it is used for communications. If not, and if the 10Base-T transceiver still detects the network device, then the 10Base-T transceiver is used to establish communications. Alternatively, the 100Base-T transceiver may be enabled for a predetermined time period for determining if the network device is a 100 Mbps device." (see column 3, line 47 to column 4, line 3, of Allmond, emphasis added). Therefore, Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine a type of communications module and an operating status of the communications module.

Additionally, Allmond further discloses "The present invention may also be used to detect and interface **a plurality of network devices** operating according to any one of **a plurality of communication protocols** [i.e., determine a type of communication module]. A communication protocol detection system according to another embodiment of the present invention includes a plurality of network connectors and a corresponding

plurality of interface circuits. Each of the plurality of interface circuits includes a plurality of transceivers coupled to a corresponding network connector, where each of the plurality of transceivers corresponds to one of said plurality of communication protocols. Also, each of the plurality of transceivers is separately enabled for detecting signals indicative of connection of a compatible network device coupled to the corresponding network connector, where the enabled transceiver provides a corresponding one of a plurality of link signals. Control logic is provided for receiving and monitoring the link signals, where the control logic enables one of the plurality of transceivers within each of the plurality of interface circuits corresponding to the detected network device." (see column 4, lines 15-34, of Allmond, emphasis added).

Allmond further discloses "If a device changes protocol, or is disconnected, or if a different device is connected which operates at a different protocol, the detection system detects this status change [i.e., determine an operating status] by detecting that the corresponding link signal is no longer being provided by the enabled transceiver. The control logic then continues enabling the transceivers one at a time until an enabled transceiver provides a link signal. That enabled transceiver is then used to establish communications with the new or modified network device." (see column 5, lines 5-13, of Allmond, emphasis added).

Thus, Allmond discloses a logic device being polled by the cryptographic processor to determine a type of communications module and an operating status of the communications module, such as disclosed in the claimed invention.

(b) Applicant argues:

"Indeed, nowhere in Dhir et al. does it disclose the at least one logic device also permitting the cryptographic processor to configure the network LAN interface. Cheng and Allmond et al. similarly fail to disclose the at least one logic device also permitting the cryptographic processor to configure the network LAN interface. Accordingly, even a selective combination of the prior art fails to disclose the claimed invention, as recited in independent Claim 13." (see page 6, 1st paragraph)

Examiner maintains:

Dhir discloses "Another aspect of the present invention is a method for providing a multi-platform wireless local area network. More particularly, a radio is provided along with programmable input/output blocks coupled thereto. Configuration logic blocks coupled to the programmable input/output blocks are provided. A plurality of medium access control layers compatible with the radio and configured to program the configuration logic blocks are stored. A first portion of **the configuration** logic blocks is selectively programmed with a **medium access control layer** [i.e., configure the network LAN interface] from the plurality of medium access control layers. Another aspect of the present invention is the above method further comprising storing a plurality of encryption algorithms configured to program the configuration logic blocks, and selectively programming a second portion of a configuration logic blocks with an encryption algorithm selected from the plurality of encryption algorithms." (see column 3, lines 1-17, of Dhir, emphasis added). Therefore, Dhir discloses at least one logic device also permitting the cryptographic processor to configure the network LAN interface.

Additionally, Allmond discloses "Control logic is provided for receiving and monitoring the link signals, where the control logic **enables one of the plurality of transceivers** [i.e., configure the network LAN interface] within each of the plurality of interface circuits corresponding to the detected network device." (see column 4, lines 31-34, of Allmond, emphasis added).

Thus, the reference(s) disclose at least one logic device also permitting the cryptographic processor to configure the network LAN interface, such as disclosed in the claimed invention.

(c) Applicant argues:

"Applicants further submit that the Examiner's combination of Dhir et al., Cheng, and Allmond et al. is improper, as a person having ordinary skill in the art would not turn to Cheng and Allmond et al. to combine with Dhir et al. in an attempt to arrive at the claimed invention" (see page 6, last paragraph)

Examiner maintains:

Dhir et al. disclose "Referring to FIG. 7, there is shown an exemplary embodiment of FPGA 300 program in accordance with one or more aspects of the present invention. In this embodiment, a separate transceiver 301 integrated circuit, namely not embedded in FPGA 300, is coupled to FPGA 300, as is program memory 312. In this embodiment, a direct interface between separate transceiver 301 and FPGA 300 may be employed for direct interaction between transceiver 301 and FPGA 300." (see column 7, lines 48-56 of Dhir et al., emphasis added).

Therefore, Dhir et al. disclose that the communication module [i.e., transceiver 301] is separable from the cryptographic module [i.e., in FPGA 300]. However, Dhir does not specifically mention that the communication module is removable from the cryptographic module.

Cheng teaches a add-on card for connecting to both wired and wireless networks, wherein Cheng discloses that "The network connection module can be detachable [i.e., removable] from the add-on card to allow for various network configurations." (see figure 4; and abstract, lines 9-11 of Cheng, emphasis added).

Thus, Combining Dhir et al. with Cheng so that the communications module and the cryptographic module would be removably coupled would not require splitting the communications and cryptographic modules from the single FPGA, and would make Dhir's system "to allow for various network configurations".

Conclusion

6. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Pan whose telephone number is 571-272-5987.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached at 571-272-3859. The fax and phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

/Joseph Pan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2435
September 1, 2009

/Beemnet W Dada/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2435